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George amendment ensures overtime for employees currently eligible for it

LANSING – An amendment sponsored by Sen. Tom George today would ensure any employee who receives overtime compensation now will continue to get overtime under the new minimum wage law. The amendment passed unanimously on the Senate floor.

"This amendment protects employees who currently earn overtime—so that they can continue to receive it under the new minimum wage rules," said George, R-Texas Township. "It is important that we preserve our current overtime provisions."

The amendment was added onto House Bill 6213 – a bill to maintain status quo overtime rules in accordance with federal minimum wage and overtime exemptions. This bill helps out employees in such industries as healthcare, automotive sales, retail sales and the newspaper industry.

"Today, Senator George and our Republican colleagues in the Senate stood up to protect jobs by maintaining Michigan's ability to compete with neighboring states," said Senate Majority Leader Ken Sikkema, R-Wyoming. "This state is being left behind while every other state in the nation is recovering. We must do everything we can to make Michigan's business climate as inviting as possible by reducing costs and promoting job creation."

The bill now returns to the House for concurrence.

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